

60130-1064
98UK011

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An actuator assembly including a motor having a body portion, a drive shaft, and a pinion directly fixed to the drive shaft to always rotate in unison with the drive shaft, the pinion drivingly engaging an array of gear teeth of a gear rack, the array of gear teeth having a first side adjacent the motor, and the gear rack is pivotally mounted via a pivot about a pivot axis wherein said pivot axis is on a motor side of said array of gear teeth.
2. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 1 in which the pivot axis passes through the body portion.
3. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 1 in which the pivot axis is proximate an end of the motor remote from the pinion.
4. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 1 in which the gear rack includes at least one stop to limit movement of the rack relative to the body portion.
5. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 4 in which each stop engages the drive shaft.
6. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 5 in which each stop engages a portion of the drive shaft on the side of the pinion remote from the motor.
7. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 4 in which the drive shaft passes between the array of gear teeth and a guide portion proximate the gear teeth.
8. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 7 in which the guide portion is supported by each stop.

60130-1064
98UK011

9. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 1 which further includes a housing in which the motor is secured.

10. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 9 in which the pivot is mounted on the housing.

11. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 9 in which the pivot includes a boss of the gear rack to which in use a lever is attached.

12. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 11 in which the boss at least partially projects through the housing.

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C2A
13. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 9 in which the drive shaft engages the housing.

14. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 9 in which the housing is substantially sealed.

15. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 9 in which the housing has at least a first and second part, the parts having co-operating cut-outs to provide for at least one end of the drive shaft.

16. (Currently Amended) The actuator assembly as recited in Claim claim 1 in which the pivot is mounted on the body portion.

17. (Previously Presented) An actuator assembly including a motor having a body portion, a drive shaft, and a pinion directly fixed to the drive shaft to always rotate in unison with the drive shaft, the pinion drivingly engaging an array of gear teeth of a gear rack with the gear rack mounted for movement on the body portion.

60130-1064
98UK011

18. (Previously Presented) The actuator assembly as recited in claim 17 in which the motor is an electric motor.

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cont 19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) An actuator assembly comprising a motor having a body portion and a drive shaft, the drive shaft being drivably connected to a pinion, the pinion drivingly engaging an array of gear teeth of a gear rack pivotally mounted for movement about a pivot axis, the array of gear teeth having a first side adjacent the motor and at least one stop engaging the drive shaft to limit movement of the gear rack relative to the body portion.